From: Bev Mautner
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/15/02 8:56am

Subject: I support the recent settlement between US DOJ and Microsoft

Bev and Mark Mautner 600 SW 100 Terrace Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

Jan 15, 2002,

US Attorney General John Ashcroft, DOJ

Dear Mr Ashcroft,

End this protracted litigation. Enough is enough. The settlement is fair..

I support the recent settlement between the US DOJ and MIcrosoft. Some of the terms seem fair and reasonable. Others, I do not feel knowledgeable enough to make a judgement call on, but one of those terms, I am concerned about. This involves the issue of being forced to give up the internal interfaces and protocols needed to develop products that are compatible with Window' operating systems. Let's face it. Microsoft has without a doubt been one of the principal driving forces behind America being the leader in technology advancements in computerization. I object to any government entity not protecting their property and/or intellectual rights. Microsoft has worked hard and spent incredible amounts of money and devoted much of their resources to making products and developing new technologies that spin off entire new industries. It is essential that companies be reassured their intellectual property rights are protected by the American justice system whether they be a company has powerful as Microsoft or the next "Bill Gates wanna be".

I therefore urge your office to persuade the nine states holding out to settle, and bring closure to this long and protracted lawsuit.

SIncerely yours,

Beverly and Mark Mautner

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